

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DAN MILLER of Florida) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, You have revealed Your commands and Your marvelous deeds throughout the ages to Your people of faith. In weekend worship we have been strengthened by the faith of others and empowered to see Your action in the unfolding of the present moment.

To stand firm in faith is to push against fear. If we persevere in faith, sadness will never overtake the heart. For sadness comes from the disappointment of placing our trust in ourselves or in anything or anyone other than You, O Lord. All Your creatures are frail and lifeless without You, O Lord, and human hearts never find rest except in what is stable and secure.

Inspire renewed faith in the Members of the House of Representatives as this Nation seeks direction from You, the Creator and Governor of the universe. To achieve justice in our time and pave the way for a secure peace in the world, fasten our hearts on being Your instruments of re-creation now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6:30 p.m. today.

REVOCATION OF PUBLIC LAND ORDER WITH RESPECT TO LANDS ERRONEOUSLY INCLUDED IN CIBOLA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, CALIFORNIA

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3937) to revoke a Public Land Order with respect to certain lands erroneously included in the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, California, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3937

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REVOCATION OF PUBLIC LAND ORDER WITH RESPECT TO LANDS ERRONEOUSLY INCLUDED IN CIBOLA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, CALIFORNIA.

Public Land Order 3442, dated August 21, 1964, is revoked insofar as it applies to the following described lands: San Bernardino Meridian, T11S, R22E, sec. 6, all of lots 1, 16, and 17, and SE¼ of SW¼ in Imperial County, California, aggregating approximately 140.32 acres.

SEC. 2. RESURVEY AND NOTICE OF MODIFIED BOUNDARIES.

The Secretary of the Interior shall, by not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) resurvey the boundaries of the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, as modified by the revocation under section 1;

(2) publish notice of, and post conspicuous signs marking, the boundaries of the refuge determined in such resurvey; and

(3) prepare and publish a map showing the boundaries of the refuge.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON).

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This legislation will revoke a small portion of the Public Land Order that originally created Cibola in 1964. While the refuge is more than 17,000 acres, there is a small component of the unit known as "Walter's Camp." Based on

testimony from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it is clear that a mistake was made to include this property within the refuge. In fact, about a dozen years ago, the Service constructed a fence around what they thought were the boundaries of the refuge, and Walter's Camp was excluded.

Walter's Camp has provided recreational opportunities for over 40 years. It provides family-friendly recreation to nearly 15,000 people a year who travel there to camp, hike, canoe, fish, bird watch and rockhound along the lower Colorado River.

The concessionaire who operates this camp has obtained the necessary permits from the Bureau of Land Management. According to a BLM representative in Yuma, Arizona, there have been no problems with Walter's Camp, the concessionaire has been extremely cooperative, the facilities are inspected about every 6 months, and by transferring title to BLM, the net effect will be to improve environmental protection for the lower Colorado River.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service testified there are little, if any, resource values on the 140 affected acres and that the best course of action for everyone, including the Government, the concessionaire and the general public, is to remove these lands from the refuge system.

H.R. 3937 will accomplish that goal. It will end the confusion as to who has title to this property, and it will reaffirm that the management of the concession is the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management.

I urge an aye vote on H.R. 3937, and I want to compliment the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) for his tireless efforts on behalf of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, as stated by the previous speaker, my colleague, the overall purpose of the bill before the House is to resolve a long-standing error that included a concession known as Walter's Camp as part of the original land withdrawal which established the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge.

In the course of the Committee on Resources' investigation into this matter, we have come to understand that the inclusion of Walter's Camp was a genuine error in the original 1964 withdrawal. We have also been careful to ensure that nothing in H.R. 3937 will affect public ownership of the lands revoked by H.R. 3937. All title interests will remain with the Federal Government.

As a result, I support this legislation to correct the mistake which under law cannot be resolved administratively by the Secretary of the Interior.